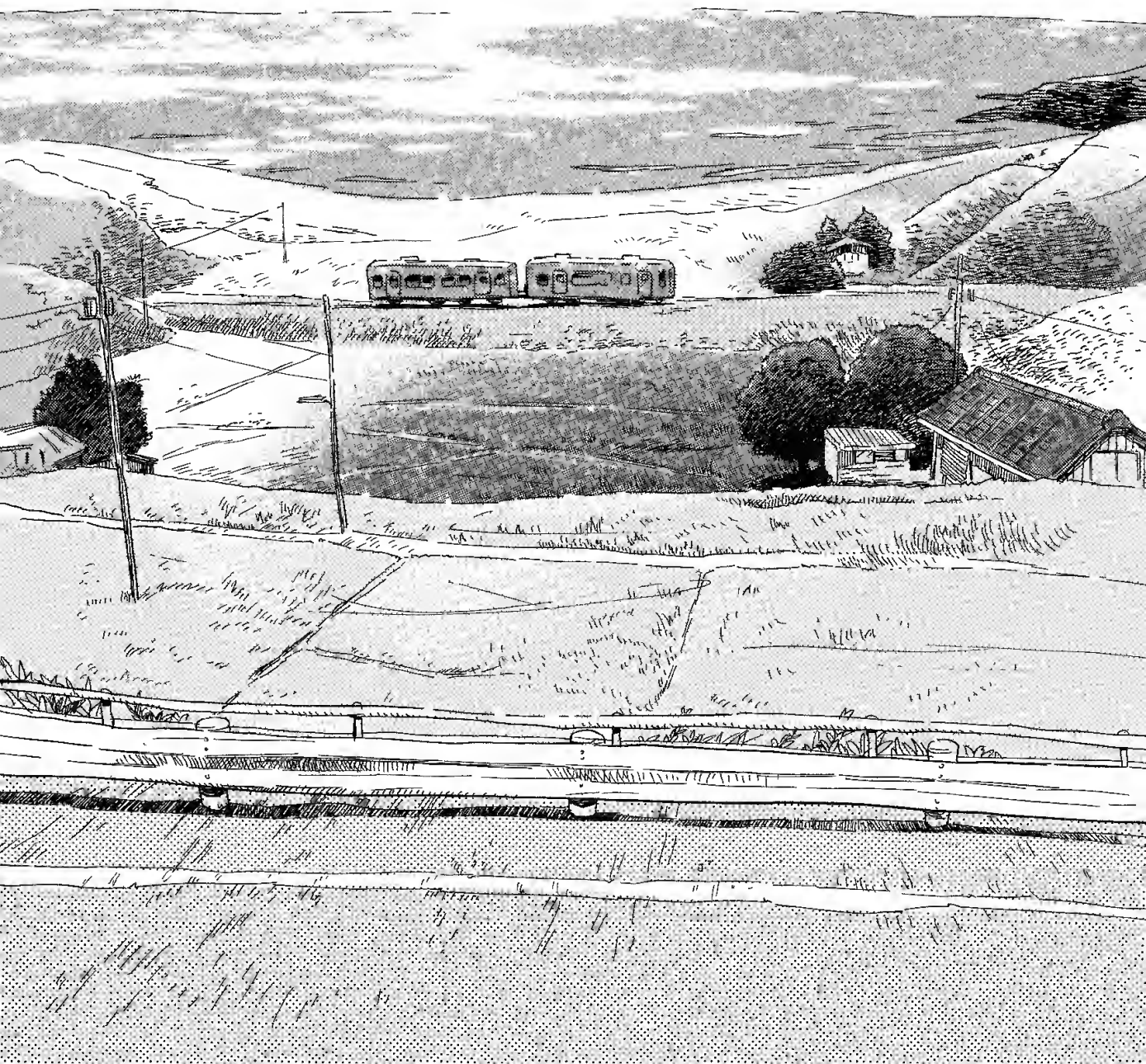
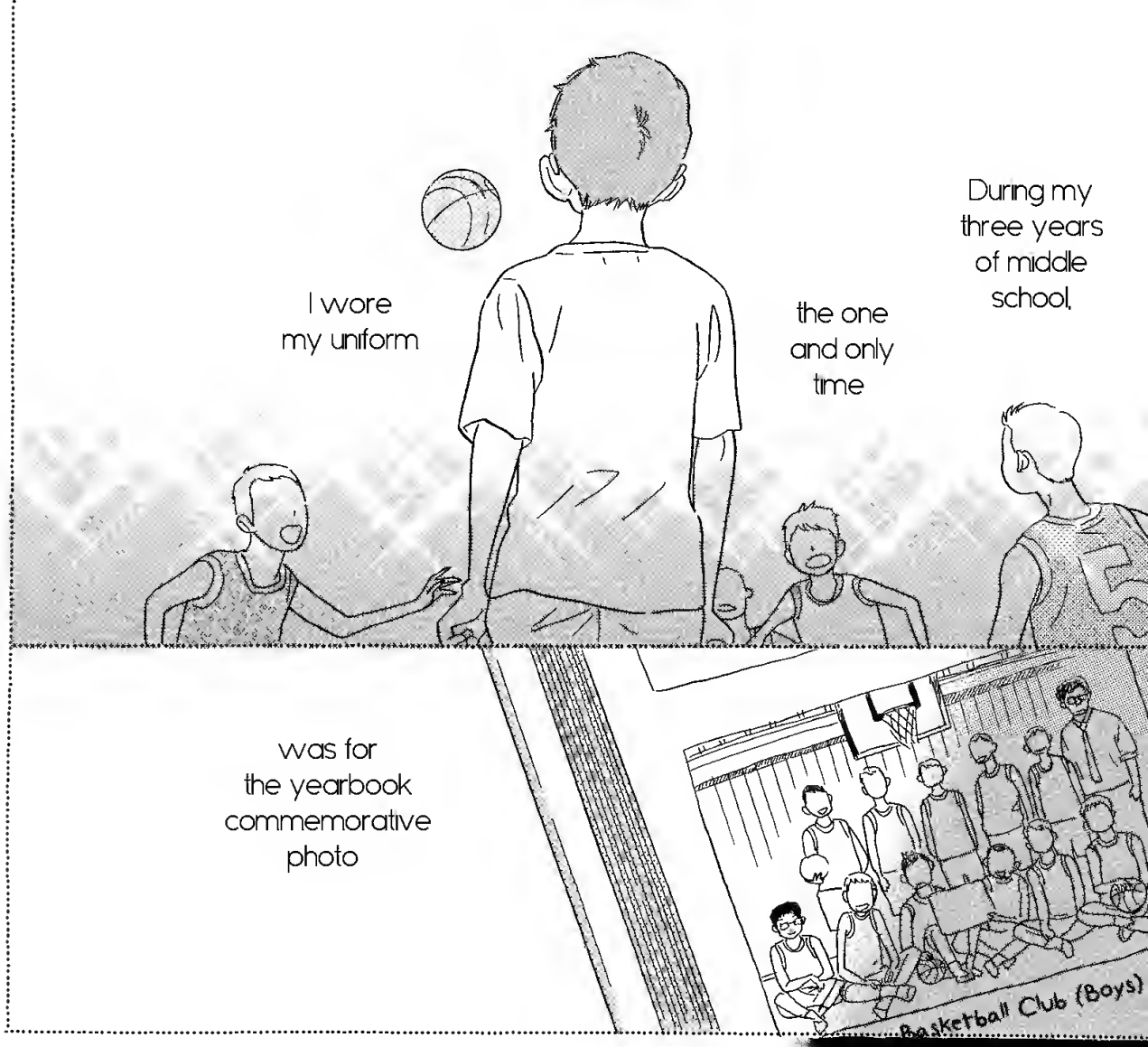
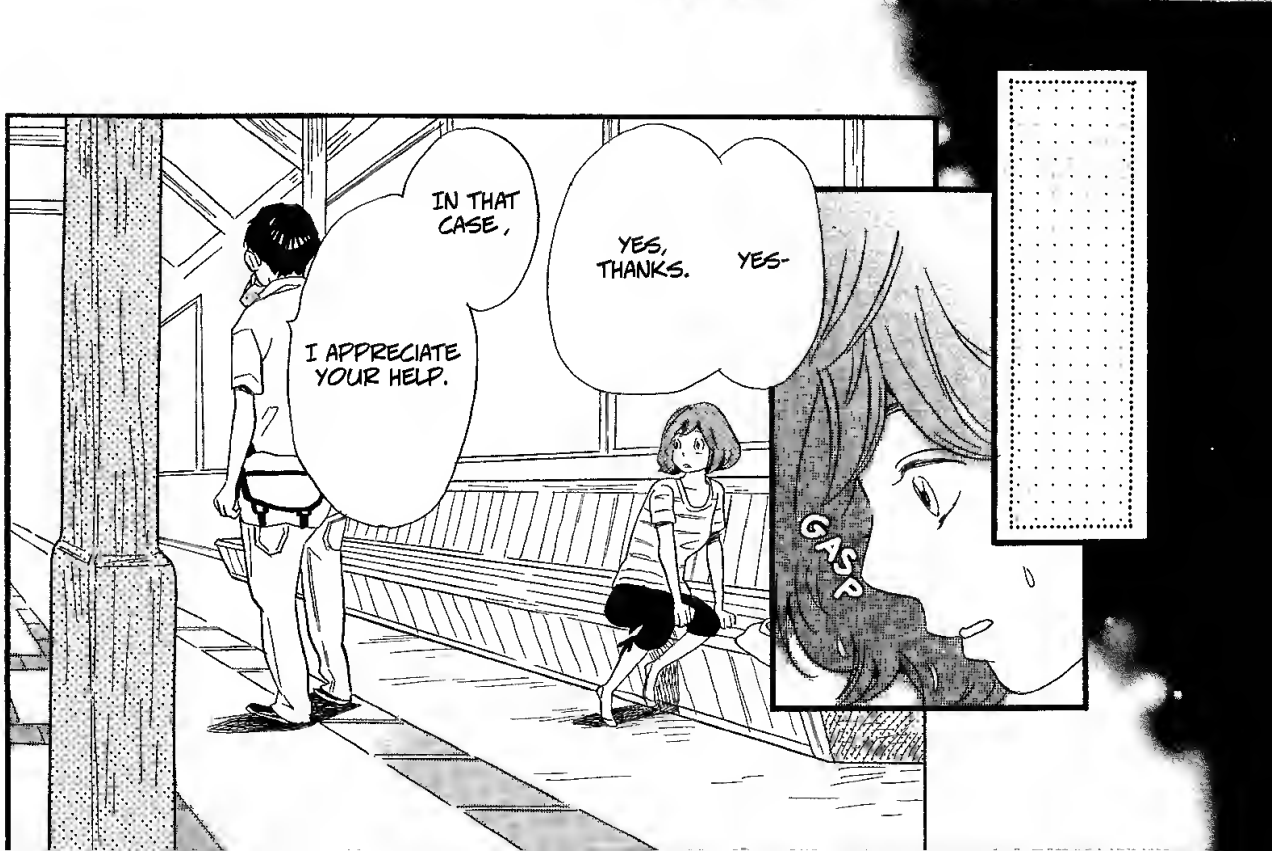
scene

15




During my three years of middle school,
the one and only time
I wore my uniform
was for the yearbook commemorative photo
Basketball Club (Boys)


IN THAT CASE,
I APPRECIATE YOUR HELP.
YES, THANKS.
YES-
GASP

WELL,
TUCK
beep
UM...
KNEEL
!
HUH?
LET'S GO, AMAMIYA-SAN.

IT'S FINE.
YOU CAN'T TAKE THE STAIRS LIKE THIS!
HOLD ON, MOCHIZUKI-SENSEI! PUT ME DOWN!
I WAS INTO SPORTS THROUGHOUT MIDDLE SCHOOL AND HIGH SCHOOL.
HMM...
I WOULDN'T HAVE GUESSED...
I GET THAT A LOT.
But, now that he's mentioned it,
his shoulders are really sturdy
WHAT CLUB WERE YOU IN?
IN HIGH SCHOOL, IT WAS PING-PONG CLUB—

IT SUITS YOU!
IT REALLY SUITS YOU!
THANKS.
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL, IT WAS BASKETBALL CLUB.
WHOOSH!!
PING-PONG...
IMAGINING
HUH?
UNEX-PECTED, RIGHT?
SINCE I'M SUCH A SHRIMP.
UH, NO...
HAHA.
IT'S FINE. IT'S TRUE, AFTER ALL.
EVEN THOUGH I HAD PERFECT CLUB ATTEN-DANCE,
THROUGH ALL THREE YEARS, I NEVER BECAME A REGULAR.

UM...
BY THE WAY, SENSEI...
WHERE ARE WE GOING?
JUST OVER THERE,
TO MY APARTMENT BUILDING.
YOUR APART-MENT?
HUH?
AH, WE'RE HERE.
NO, ISN'T THIS WRONG? THIS IS WRONG!
AH, CAN YOU PLEASE NOT MOVE AROUND LIKE THAT?
MOCHIZUKI-KUN!

WELCOME HOME.
COME ON IN.
THANKS, MACHIKO-SAN.
I'M GLAD I MADE IT HOME BEFORE YOU.
I WAS THINKING THAT IT COULD BE A PROBLEM IF I TOOK HER TO MY ROOM.
THAT MIGHT BE A PROBLEM.
Since she's a nursery school kid's parent.
AH, THIS IS THE WIFE OF THE LANDLORD'S SON.
I'M THE MANAGER HERE.
CALL ME MACHIKO.
OOF

A WOMAN CAN'T LET HER BODY GET COLD.
Take these.
OH MY! YOU'RE BAREFOOT! THAT'S NO GOOD!
WANT TO TRY TAKING SOME MEDICINE?
DOES YOUR STOMACH HURT?
AH, OKAY. THANKS.
HERE YOU GO, MEDICINE AND HOT WATER.
T-THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
AND SOMETHING TO COVER UP--
I'LL GET SOMETHING!
OH, PLEASE DO.
GULP
So Bitter!
MOCHIZUKI-KUN...

An acquaintance has fallen ill
Could she rest a little at your place, manager?
...SAID THAT IT'D BE WRONG FOR HIM TO TAKE YOU BACK TO HIS PLACE.
THAT KID IS SO SERIOUS.
knock
knock
YES?
I BROUGHT YOU A COAT.
It's been thoroughly cleaned.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
HERE YOU GO, LIE DOWN FOR A BIT.
TUCKS IN
PAT
PAT

MACHIKO-SAN, I'M SORRY.
I JUST... COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE...
SHE SAID THAT SHE DIDN'T WANT THE PEOPLE AT HER PLACE TO KNOW...
IT SEEMED LIKE SHE DIDN'T WANT TO WORRY THEM—
pat
pat
RIGHT.
...
SOMETIMES, THERE ARE THINGS YOU CAN'T TELL YOUR FAMILY.

AMAMIYA-SAN
IS USELESS.
It's not just them
I bet everyone's thinking it
It's true that I'm useless,
but—
Do your Best, Mommy

But I...
knock
knock
Do your Best Ma
knock knock....
AMAMIYA-SAN?
CAN I COME IN,
AMAMIYA-SAN?
open

ARE YOU SLEEPING?
AMAMIYA-SAN...
touch
!
She's cold...
AMAMIYA-SAN?
bend
!
squeeze

A-AMAMIYA-SAN? ARE YOU AWAKE?
zzz...
SNORE...
Jerk
...
Seriously...
With hands this cold...
ARE YOU SAYING IT'S BECAUSE YOU LIKE ME?

THAT MIGHT BE IT.
that pass
Back then, I had to successfully catch
right away
That's all...
blush
Some-one's hand
So warm
Whose?
I remem-ber...

Is it Maya-chan?
I don't know,
but
I've heard that people with cold hands have warm hearts
If that's true,
then whoever this big, wide hand belongs to
must have a really cold heart
Surely
If not...

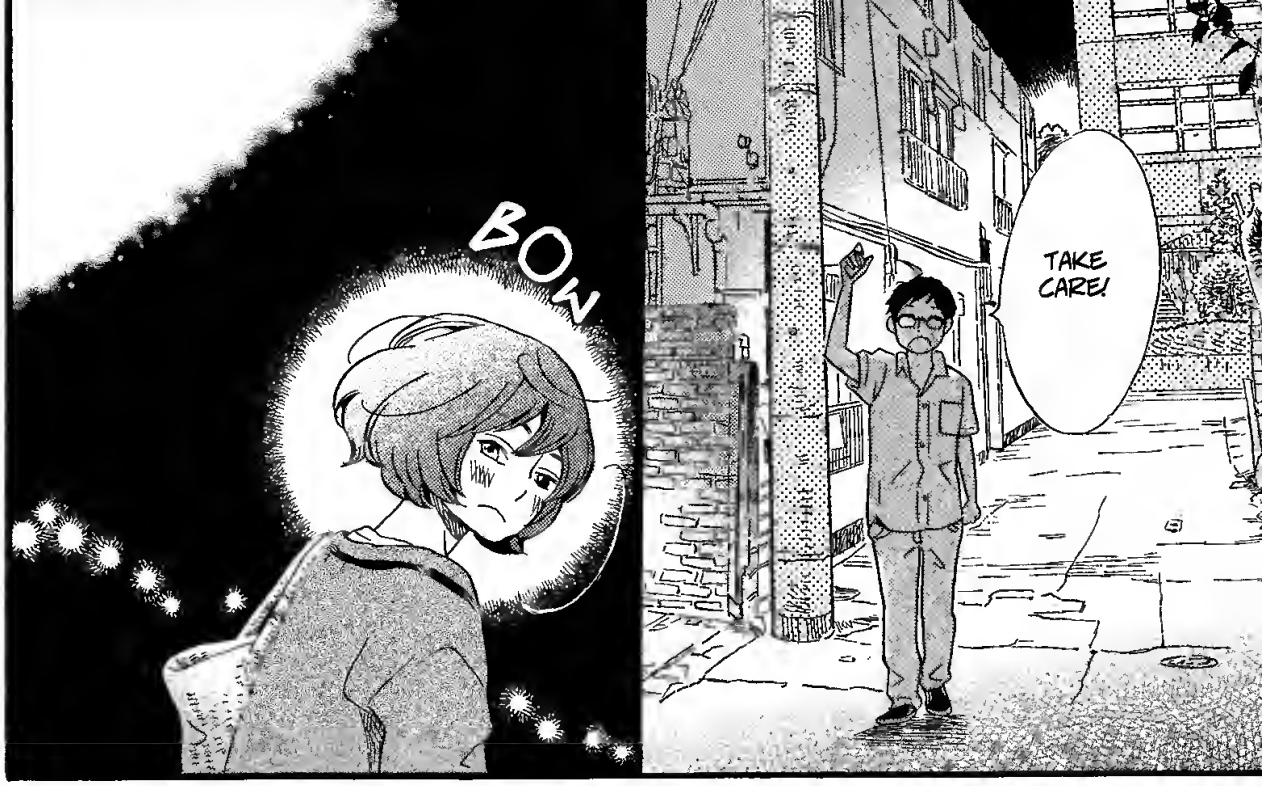
there's no reason for this person to have such warm hands.
AMAMIYA-SAN.
-SAN.
IT'S TIME TO WAKE UP!
!
AH...
HUH?
PASTING

UH.
AH...
HOW DO YOU FEEL?
Gasp
WHOA! I FELL ASLEEP!
I...
...
BY THE WAY, IT'S GETTING LATE...
WHAT WILL YOU DO? AFTER ALL, STAYING HERE FOR THE NIGHT IS...
WHOA!
GLAD TO HEAR IT.
I SEEM FINE!

PLEASE GIVE MY REGARDS TO THE MANAGER.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
I'M GOING HOME! I'M SORRY!
SHALL I CALL A TAXI?
NO, IT'S FINE.
GRAB
UH...
It's not safe.
Well, then...
I'LL WALK YOU TO THE STATION.
ARE YOU SAYING IT'S BECAUSE YOU LIKE ME?
AH...
THAT MIGHT BE IT.
AH...
?
NO, I'LL BE FINE! I'LL BE FINE!
scuttle back

RUN
AH!
AMAMIYA-SAN.
SEE YOU LATER!
W-
WHAT IS IT?
Freeze
PLEASE WAIT A MOMENT!
TO NAGUMO-SAN OR NICO-SAN,
IF THERE'S SOMETHING THAT'S HARD TO SAY
IF... IF THERE'S SOME-THING...

SO, FOR YUUTA-KUN'S SAKE,
IT'LL AFFECT THE CHILD AS WELL.
IF THE MOTHER SEEMS DOWN,
WOULD YOU TRY TALKING TO ME?
!
IT'S BETTER TO HAVE MORE PLACES WHERE YOU CAN LET IT OUT, RIGHT?
close
I'LL THINK ABOUT IT.
!
beep
beepity-beep
grind
AH...
...


BOW
TAKE CARE!

...
I borrowed this...
gasp
SHOVE SHOVE
SLAP
SQUEAK

I'M HOME!
ALRIGHT!
OH MY, YOU'RE HOME LATE.
CLOSE
FLUSH...
GURGLE
RUB
YUU-CHAN HAD JUST WOKEN UP TO GO TO THE BATHROOM.
Mommy.
Welcome home.

a small boy

dressed up in an oversized basketball uniform

ran around in my dreams